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RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0997
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 05 USNATO 000332

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [NATO](#) [EWWT](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [AF](#) [PK](#) [RS](#) [TZ](#) [XW](#)
SUBJECT: NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL MEETING, JULY 29, 2009

REF: A. USNATO 321
[1](#)B. USNATO 330

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Classified By: A/PolAd A. "Hoot" Baez. Reasons: 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C/NF) Summary of the July 29 meeting of the North Atlantic Council (NAC):

-- AFGHANISTAN: Following the advice of the Military Committee and Senior Resouce Board, the NAC has been asked to approve changes to ISAF's upper command structure through a silence procedure which expires on August 3. In a SHAPE update on the implementation of the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A), Brigadier Porter stressed the need to align NTM-A's mission with its resources. He asked nations providing bilateral training to Afghan security forces to: a) be transparent with the Alliance to avoid duplication and b) to consider moving that bilateral training within NTM-A. Allies welcomed the speedy work on these issues, but asked how they would incorporate the need to work toward "Afghanization." The UK stressed the need for a prioritization of resources and for burden sharing. The UK also said that it was considering doing more in the realm of training and mentoring, but signaled that this would likely

mean doing less in other areas.

-- AWACS SUPPORT TO THE AFGHANISTAN MISSION: During the week of August 3, the International Staff will continue negotiations with the UAE on the basing of NATO AWACS aircraft. The Secretary General's Special Representative for Central Asia and the Caucasus was "cautiously optimistic" that an agreement can be reached with Azerbaijan for the overflight of AWACS that could be based temporarily in Konya, Turkey. The International Staff was less optimistic that a similar agreement could be reached with Turkmenistan.

-- IRAQ: NATO and Iraq signed a long-term agreement providing the legal framework for the NATO Training Mission-Iraq (NTM-I). The Deputy Secretary General said that now is the time for Allies to embrace NTM-I "once and for all." (ref A)

-- THE BALKANS: The Deputy Secretary General said that he had distributed a letter received from Serbian Defense Minister Sutanovic in which Sutanovic requested changes in the implementation of the Military Technical Agreement due to the security situation in southern Serbia. (ref B)

-- FRENCH WON'T PAY: Referring back to a June 9 informal PermReps' lunch discussion on French financial participation in certain NATO activities after the French reintegration into NATO's military structure, the French PermRep said that Paris was "not looking for an argument" about these budget issues. At the same time, however, she said that the French position remained firm that--while France would pay for new activities agreed following reintegration--it would not participate in various programs which predated reintegration.

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-- FIRST C-17 WELCOMED AT PAPA: The Deputy Secretary General noted that he had attended the July 27 ceremony welcoming the arrival of the first of three C-17 airlift planes at Papa airbase in Hungary as a part of the Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) initiative. He pointed out that two partner countries--Finland and Sweden--were among the twelve participating nations of the SAC.

END SUMMARY

Afghanistan

12. (C/REL ISAF) ISAF Upper Command Structure Changes: The Chairman of the NATO Military Committee (CMC), Admiral Di Paola, reported that the Military Committee had provisionally approved a document on the establishment of a three-star ISAF Joint Command (IJC) under COMISAF. The Senior Resource Board had also assessed the estimated costs of the IJC as "reasonable," while cautioning that costs may have been somewhat under-estimated due to the expedited nature of the assessment. Communications infrastructure represents a significant portion of the planned costs. Di Paola said that Non-NATO troop contributors had been provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes. Assuming there were no problems, the NAC would be asked to give final approval to the command changes under a short silence procedure. (Note: The proposed changes are under a Council silence procedure until Monday, August 3.) Di Paola said that the goal was to have the new command structure in place no later than October 12. The new command structure will create 223 new positions for the U.S. to fill as the "framework nation," and 167 new posts to be filled by Allies and ISAF partners.

13. (C/REL ISAF) NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A) Progress Report: SHAPE Brigadier Simon Porter presented an update on the implementation of the NTM-A, stressing the need to align NTM-A's mission/mandate with its resources. He called on nations to make all of their current bilateral contributions to Afghan army and police training and mentoring transparent and available to the NTM-A. Where

possible, he continued, nations should transfer authority of their current training and mentoring initiatives to NTM-A. He said that NTM-A would be established as resources become available, but also argued that its success would depend on new manpower contributions, particularly of Police Operational Mentoring and Liaison Teams (POMLTs). He emphasized that NTM-A would not simply be a rebadging of the existing U.S.-led training command, the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan (CSTC-A).

¶4. (C/REL ISAF) Clearinghouse function: Porter said that SHAPE was developing a comprehensive "full extent" Combined Joint Statement of Requirements (CJSOR) specific to the NTM-A. Responding to PermReps' questions from the UK,

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Germany, and Canada on how existing civilian contributions to police training may be incorporated into the NTM-A, Porter explained that these commitments could simply be listed -- and credited -- against the CJSOR. Bilateral (and even EUPOL) activities should be slotted and offset against line items in the CJSOR. Porter said that SHAPE was continuing to develop the POMLT concept, standards, and potential pre-deployment training for the NTM-A. SHAPE's next status report on NTM-A implementation is due August 20.

¶5. (C/REL ISAF) Filling New Billets: SHAPE will hold a "flags-to-post" conference on August 14 with the aim of filling the new framework (223) and non-framework (167) positions established under the IJC three-star headquarters, and to initiate the "crisis establishment" of the NTM-A headquarters (214 staff). The first conference will solicit officers above the rank of Colonel, and a follow-on conference on September 2 will aim to fill positions at the Lieutenant Colonel level and below. A "global" force generation conference will be held in November.

¶6. (C/REL ISAF) PermReps Grateful for Speedy Work, But Also Raised Questions: The U.S., UK, Denmark, France, and Germany welcomed the "deliberate and speedy" work of SHAPE, the Military Committee, and the Senior Resource Board to enable a decision on ISAF command and control and implement the NTM-A. Canada led a number of Allies in asking how both the IJC and NTM-A would play a role in the "Afghanization" of the conflict. Spain asked whether the Alliance's ambition for NTM-A was outstripping the resources which would likely be available for it. Denmark's PermRep highlighted the need for a strategic communications plan in the roll-out of the NTM-A, possibly jointly with EUPOL, laying out how these two key training and mentoring initiatives would complement rather than compete with each other.

¶7. (C/REL) UK Signaling a Shift?: In his intervention, UK PermRep Eldon stressed the need to "prioritize" resources and capabilities, as well as the need to "share burdens." In this regard, he said that there was a need to "unlock the resources" the Germans had in the north, particularly training resources, for use elsewhere in the country. Speaking on the importance of NTM-A, Eldon said that the UK was looking at doing more in the areas of training and mentoring. He added, however, that this might mean they do less in other areas.

AWACS IN SUPPORT OF ISAF

¶8. (C/REL NATO) The Deputy Secretary General told the Council that the next round of NATO-UAE negotiations on an agreement on the basing of NATO AWACS aircraft would be held the week of August 3. He also said that the Secretary General's Special Representative to Central Asia and the Caucasus, Bob Simmons, had traveled to Azerbaijan to continue discussion of

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AWACS overflights from a temporary AWACS basing site in Konya, Turkey. Noting that he had distributed Simmons's report of the trip (report e-mailed to EUR/RPM), he said that Simmons had come back "cautiously optimistic" that a deal could be reached with Baku. At the same time, he cautioned that he was less optimistic about the prospects of concluding an overflight arrangement with Turkmenistan.

Iraq

¶9. (C/REL NATO) The Deputy Secretary General reported that he and the Iraqi Minister of Defense had signed an agreement providing a long-term legal framework for the continued operation of the NATO Training Mission-Iraq (ref A). He concluded that "the time has come for us to embrace NTM-I, once and for all," including through the provision of adequate contributions and resources.

Balkans

¶10. (C/REL NATO) The Deputy Secretary General said that he had distributed to Allies a letter received from Serbian Defense Minister Sutanovic. In the letter Sutanovic requested changes in the implementation of the Military Technical Agreement due to the security situation in southern Serbia. (Note: The unofficial text of the letter the Deputy SecGen's planned response are reported in ref B.)

French Won't Pay

¶11. (C/REL NATO) Referring back to a June 9 informal PermReps' lunch discussion on French financial participation in certain NATO activities after the French reintegration into NATO's military structure, the French PermRep said that Paris was "not looking for an argument" about these budget issues. At the same time, however, she said that the French position remained firm that--while France would pay for new activities agreed following reintegration--it would not participate in various programs which predated reintegration.

She said, for example, that there would be "no retroactivity" regarding the NATO Security Investment Program (NSIP). She also that France would not participate in three specific programs: AWACS, C-17s, and the Alliance Ground Surveillance system AGS).

First C-17 Welcomed at PAPA

¶12. (SBU) The Deputy Secretary General noted that he had attended the July 27 ceremony welcoming the arrival of the first of three C-17 airlift planes at Papa airbase in Hungary as a part of the Strategic Airlift Capability (SAC) initiative. The planes had been acquired by the NATO Airlift

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Management Agency (NAMA). He pointed out that there were twelve participating nations in SAC, including two partner nations: Sweden and Finland. (Note: The participating NATO nations are: Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, and the United States.)
STEIN